

# SPECTATOR.

EDWARDSVILLE, FEBRUARY 29, 1820.

Our stock of paper on hand being expended with this number, a suspension of the publication of the Spectator must occur, if the supply, hourly expected, shall fail to arrive in time. To satisfy our subscribers that no exertions have been wanting on our part, to prevent an occurrence of this kind, we will state, that in the month of July last, a contract was made with a paper maker in Kentucky for half-yearly supplies, the first of which was to have arrived in October. The low state of the waters since that period, has prevented the fulfillment of that contract. When it was ascertained that the Ohio and Mississippi rivers would not be navigable in due time, an express, with a light wagon, on the 4th inst. was despatched for Louisville, for the purpose of procuring paper, which has not yet returned.

FOR THE SPECTATOR.

Mr. Editor,

The medium of the press is doubtless one among the greatest liberties that mankind can enjoy; and it is really desirable that each individual would carefully and attentively endeavor to avoid the abuse of that privilege. It is a privilege whereby any individual may lay before the public, for their scrutiny, any of the official conduct of the most eminent characters, who hold the reins of government in their hands. We have a sample of it now in the public papers. It is to be regretted that the first legislature of the state of Illinois has unfortunately made so many blunders, in enacting laws for the government of the good people therein. It is unnecessary for me to enter into a detail of these blunders, inasmuch as they have already been exhibited to the public, or at least some of the most prominent features of some of their acts, by some of the most eminent writers (anonymous) perhaps in the state. I have felt willing in some degree to excuse them, as will appear by reference to the twenty-fourth number of your paper, believing that it was entirely owing to their inability, and not to a want of integrity. I have at different stages of my life engaged in some mechanism; and after laboring faithfully, and sparing no pains to make my work complete, would fall far short of accomplishing my design, though completed my machine so as to render it very beneficial, and would answer my purpose in a great degree. But when my neighbors would come to see it, some of them would think it would do very well, while others would think it was susceptible of improvement; and perhaps others would think it should have been constructed entirely different. So it is with the acts of the legislature; for there are some men who are not so well read, who don't make the law their study, that would think they might do very well, and others who have acquired greater knowledge in law matters, and able to discover and point out the defects, will conclude they are susceptible of improvement, and others think they had better be entirely new constructed.\* I have thought that there are but few laws now extant but what would afford considerable argument when criticised by politicians, in judging of their perfection; and if this be the case, why should we expect that the people of any new state could select from among them, men that could make laws that every one would justify them in. For my part I have not a distant idea, that if the Farmer, or Tuebor, or either of them had the sole power of making laws for the state, but they would not only discover that they were susceptible of improvement, but would be forced to acknowledge that their construction was radically wrong, or at least some of them; and they would then discover that it was not so easy a matter to make good laws, and such as would please all the people, as to point out the defects in laws after their enactment. Tuebor has undertaken to expose the legislature by reciting the first section of an act for the relief of the poor; and when I first looked over his "catalogue," I was struck with the impression that he had come nigher exposing himself than the legislature. He appears not to understand the meaning of "substantial." I was ready to conclude that a ten years old school-boy would understand the definition of substantial. It appears also a query with him, whether the nomination of the overseers of the poor is to continue ad infinitum. If it is not particularly expressed, I consider it strongly implied, that the overseers first appointed are out of office so soon as others are appointed. As it respects the request of Tuebor for me to "designate one solitary act passed by the last general assembly, which they can properly call their own, worthy of praise or beneficial to the public," I would just reply, that it is not my wish to enter into a controversy with any one, and therefore shall evade complying with his request; not but what I still say, that they enacted some good laws, as I have before observed. As to the observation made by the Farmer, "that if any praise is due, it is to the clerk of the committee on the territorial code," I would ask if the public could suppose that the acts of that clerk were law? or that the acts of that committee were law? No, they will find the clerk drafted the laws agreeable to the directions of the committee, and the same to lay before the house for their investigation and correction. The appointment of that clerk I admit was something more than ordinary; though we are not always to be governed by precedents; if we were, we should not improve. If that committee were sensible that they could not expeditiously perform the duties assigned them, (as the best of politicians are not always good clerks) was it not good policy in them to apply for a clerk to expedite business? Is not the compensation of that clerk quite inconsiderable, to the expenses which would have been accumulated by the slow progress of that committee in execution of the business assigned them? I do not wish to be understood as justifying the legislature in passing the compensation law, nor yet praising them for the many good acts they passed; but merely wish to give them all the credit that is due them.

VOTER.  
February 14, 1820.

FOR THE SPECTATOR.

Mr. Printer,

The good sense which pervades most of the writings of *Old Rustic*, serves to increase my astonishment at a sentiment expressed by him in your paper of the 22d instant. After advertizing to the blunders committed by the present legislature, he adds—"Yet the very aspect of the new laws by them enacted, shows a manifest intention to shield the poor and curtail the rich, PARTICULARLY IN THE TAX LAW." And in another part of his piece, he expresses much concern lest "the present system of taxation" should chance to be "overset."

To convince *Old Rustic* that his opinion of the tax law is erroneous, I will briefly state its operation on two farmers of my acquaintance.

A. B. is a poor man. By unremitted industry and rigid economy, he has been enabled to enter one quarter section of first rate land, and has paid the first instalment of \$80 upon it. He depends upon the labor of his own hands to raise money to pay the three succeeding instalments, as well as to purchase stock and utensils for his farm, and to provide a shelter for himself and family. His whole estate may therefore be set down at eighty dollars, and even this is liable to be forfeited, should sickness or other misfortunes prevent him from completing his payments. Yet A. B. pays a tax of three dollars and twenty cents, besides a road tax not exceeding five dollars a year. This is what *Old Rustic* calls *shielding the poor*.

Now let us see what is meant by *curtailing the rich*.

C. D. is a rich man. His land is paid for, and is in a high state of cultivation. His estate may be estimated as follows:

160 acres of land at \$25 per acre,	\$4,000
1 good brick house thereon, worth	3,000
5 horses at \$75 each,	375
15 cows at \$25 each,	375
2 pair of oxen at \$110 each,	220
50 sheep, at \$4 each,	200
100 swine, at \$3.50 each,	350
Implements of husbandry,	225
Money in his chest,	575
Household furniture, &c. &c.	950
	\$10,270

And yet, though C. D. owns one hundred and twenty-eight times as much as A. B. the law imposes the same tax

upon the one as upon the other. C. D. being 50 years of age, pays no road tax at all; but A. B. pays a road tax of five dollars a year, making his whole tax eight dollars and twenty cents; being not quite three times as much as C. D. pays. This is *shielding the poor, and curtailing the rich*, with a vengeance.

All this is done in the face of the plainest and most positive injunction in the constitution. This has been often quoted; but as it seems necessary to refresh *Old Rustic's* memory, here it is again:

"Art. 8, Sec. 20. That the mode of levying a tax shall be BY VALUATION, so that every person shall pay a tax in proportion to the value of the property he or she has in his or her possession."

No member can be admitted to his seat in the general assembly until he has taken a solemn oath to support, that is, to obey, the constitution. Can any man take such an oath, and then support the present system of taxation, with a clear conscience? Does *Old Rustic* wish to be represented by men capable of doing such an act? Charity requires us to believe that the members of the present legislature had forgotten that the constitution contained the section above quoted; but no future legislature can resort to the same excuse. Either the present system of taxation must be "overset," or the constitution itself must be destroyed.

For my part, instead of trembling, like *Old Rustic*, lest the present system of taxation should be *overset*, I am determined to vote for no man unless I shall have good reason to believe that he will use every possible exertion to *overset* it: for I am well convinced that a more arbitrary, unjust, and iniquitous system never disgraced the statutes of a free people.

A FARMER.

Madison county, Feb. 25, 1820.

Candidates in Kentucky.

For Governor,

WILLIAM LOGAN, of Shelby.  
ANTHONY BUTLER, of Logan.  
JOHN EMMERSON, of Green.  
JOHN ADAIR, of Mercer.

For Lieutenant Governor,

WILLIAM B. BLACKBURN, of Woodford.  
ROBERT EWING, of Logan.  
JAMES JOHNSON, of Scott.

Vice President Tompkins has been nominated a candidate for the office of Governor of New-York, in opposition to Governor Clinton.

A valuable copper and silver mine has lately been discovered on the Wabash, near Tippecanoe.—500 lbs. of copper and 400 of silver, it is said, were dug in one day.

In Mr. Raymond's Baltimore pamphlet against slavery, he proves "that a slave population increases faster than the white population in a slave state." He shows by calculation, that while the white population of Maryland was increasing 13 per cent. the slave population increased 31 per cent.

In Virginia white increase	24
Slave ditto	38
In North Carolina white ditto	30
Slave ditto	70
In South Carolina white ditto	64
Slave ditto	84
In Georgia white ditto	275
Slave ditto	267
In Kentucky white ditto	430
Slave ditto	734

Washington, Jan. 26.

The Vice President having withdrawn from the chair of the Senate yesterday, on an intended visit to his residence in New-York, Mr. GAILLARD, of South Carolina, was elected President of the Senate, pro tempore.—*Nat. Intel.*

From the Island of St. Domingo.—The Norfolk Herald of the 3d instant, mentions, that advices from this Island, of a late date, announce "that the understanding between the two Chiefs, Christophe and Boyer, has become so friendly that an intercourse with neutral vessels may be carried on between their respective ports, without molestation—i. e. a vessel from the United States may touch at any port within the dominions of Christophe, enter, sell her cargo, in whole or in part, and clear for any port within the dominions of Boyer, and vice versa, without molestation."

MARRIED.—At Louisville, on Thursday the 10th inst. by the Rev. D. C. Banks, Dr. BENJAMIN G. FARRAR, of St. Louis, to Miss ANN C. THURSTON, of the former place.

DIED.—In this county, on the 23d inst. after a lingering illness, of the liver complaint, Mr. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN BACHE CRAWFELL, only son of Dr. George Cadwell, aged 21 years.

At Savannah, of the apoplexy, the Rev. Dr. KOLLOCK, formerly of Elizabethtown, N. J.

At Hebron, Ct. Mrs. PEGGY DOW, wife of the Rev. Lorenzo Dow.

At Salem, Ms. the Rev. WILLIAM BENTLEY, D. D. Pastor of the East Church in Salem, Fellow of the Academy of Arts and Sciences, a Counsellor of the American Antiquarian Society, and member of numerous Literary and Scientific Societies in Europe and America.

Nathaniel S. Benton,

ATTORNEY & COUNSELLOR AT LAW,

HAS opened an office in the town of CARLYLE, county of Washington, and will attend the Courts in the counties of Washington, Bond, Madison, St. Clair, Monroe, and Randolph; and also the Supreme Court at the seat of government, and the District Court of the United States for the district of Illinois. DEEDS, and other instruments of writing, will be executed on the shortest notice. Carlyle, 22d Feb. 1820.

## NEW STORE.

John W. Skidmore & Co.

HAVE on hand, at their store in Edwardsville, and will keep a constant supply of

Wines, Hard-ware,  
Liquors, Hollow-ware,  
Groceries, Ox Chains,  
Queens-ware, Log Chains,  
Crockerij, Nails,  
Trunks, Saddlery,  
Shad, Shoes, &c. &c.

Which will be disposed of on the most reasonable terms, for cash.

N. B.—J. W. S. & Co. will pay the highest price in cash for any quantity of BEES-WAX. Feb. 29—40tf

Edwardsville Mechanics' Society.

A MONTHLY meeting of this Society will be held at the house of Messrs J. C. BROWN & STREET, on Saturday evening next, at 7 o'clock; when the semi-annual election of officers of said Society will take place.—A punctual attendance is requested.

GEORGE CHURCHILL, Sec'y.

Feb. 29, 1820.—g

## For Sale, D

A MILL, DISTILLERY, and 10 acres of excellent well timbered LAND, situated on Mill creek. The Mill and distillery are now in complete operation. The Mill has one run of stones, and will grind one hundred bushels in 24 hours. One of the stills contains 125, the other 75 gallons. Any person wishing to make a better bargain than ever was made in Madison county, by purchasing an undivided half, or the whole, of the above property, will please to call on

Doct. JOSEPH BOWERS,  
Of Waterloo, or  
S. DEWEY,  
Of Edwardsville.

Feb. 29—2t

## Wanted,

A BOY from 14 to 16 years of age, who can read and spell well, as an apprentice to the printing business.

H. WARREN.

Feb. 22—tf

## A CAUTION.

SUNDRY persons having at various times taken the liberty of encroaching upon the premises of the subscriber, taking from thence his plank and many other things, subjecting him to many inconveniences; and as it is also extremely unpleasant for him to prosecute the aforesaid persons, he has resorted to this method of informing them that unless they think proper to discontinue their infamous depredations, he will certainly have the utmost rigor of the law enforced against them.

WILL. L. MAY.

Feb. 22—394t

## Strayed,

A STRAWBERRY ROAN MARE, 13 or 14 hands high, ball face, with white legs supposed to have taken the road to Kaskaski; as he has been traced in that direction 10 or 12 miles; had a rope-halter on her neck. Any person taking up said mare, and giving information at W. C. WIGGINS' Hotel, at Edwardsville, shall receive a liberal compensation. Jan. 15—34tf

## Notice.

ALL persons having any demands against the estate of DAVID W. TUTTLE, deceased, are requested to present them to the subscribers for settlement; and all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment.

The business will be continued by the subscribers at the same store, opposite the Missouri Bank, in every respect as heretofore.

ABRM. BECK, } Executors.  
AMOS WHEELER, }

St. Louis, Oct. 27, 1819—30tf

## Blacksmith's Business.

THE subscriber wishes to inform the public, that he is now carrying on the business in the shop lately occupied by John Blackburn; where he intends to work for customers on reasonable terms, and on the shortest notice, for prompt payment in cash or produce; and from his due attention to business, hopes to gain the confidence of his customers.

PHINEAS T. SEELY.

Edwardsville, Feb. 22—39tf

## Samuel P. Jones & Co.

BOOK-BINDERS, STATIONERS, and BLANK BOOK MANUFACTURERS,  
Main Cross st. next door to the Missouri Gazette Office.

HAVE commenced the above business in all its various branches; and from their complete knowledge of it, will be enabled to manufacture Blank Books of every description, ruled to order and executed in the first modern style of the art.

OLD BOOKS REBOUND—rendered equally handsome and durable as they originally were.

Persons holding public offices, Mechanics, and Merchants, can be furnished on the shortest notice with any quantity they may please to order.

N. B. Particular patterns to accompany orders. February 8.—37

## Notice.

THOSE citizens of Madison county who have not paid their taxes for the year 1819, are respectfully solicited to come forward and pay them without further delay.

WILLIAM B. WHITESIDE,  
Sherrif of Madison County.

Feb. 15, 1820—38tf

## LIME.

ANY quantity of good unslacked LIME, may be had for 25 cents per bushel, at Alton, on the Mississippi. Apply to  
MATTHIAS P. RINGER & CO.  
Feb. 15—38tf

## COPARTNERSHIP.

Robert & George Pogue

HAVE this day associated themselves together, under the above firm, for the purpose of carrying on the mercantile business on the most extensive & liberal scale, both here and at their branch at Carlyle, where customers and others may be supplied on reasonable terms, as they import their goods direct from Philadelphia, New-York, and Baltimore.

On hand, and will be sold on moderate terms for cash,

1200 lbs. SALT,  
500 " SUGAR,  
5000 " IRON,  
Do. " BAR IRON.

R. & G. P. expect by the first boats from Pittsburgh and New-Orleans, a general assortment of NEW GOODS,

CONSISTING OF

Cutlery, Crockery,  
Saddlery, Hardware,  
Domestics, Tinware,  
Groceries, Castings, &c.

R. POGUE being solicitous to settle the business of the old concern at as early a period as possible, hopes this notice will meet with attention from all those who are indebted to him, as a longer indulgence than one month from this date cannot be given.

Edwardsville, Jan. 1, 1820—32tf

## NOTICE.

THE subscriber having sold out his stock of Goods at Milton, and intending to close his mercantile business there, requests those indebted to him to call and settle their respective accounts.

R. COLLET.

Milton, Jan. 25, 1820—366t

N. B. CORN will be received, if delivered immediately.

## THE SUBSCRIBER

Having purchased of Mr. R. Collet, his ELEGANT STOCK OF

## GOODS,

OFFERS them for sale at Mr. Collet's old stand, in MILTON, at the most reasonable prices. He intends to keep a constant supply of such Goods as are wanted in the country, and invites the public to call and examine for themselves.

PRODUCE of all kinds received in payment. Fifty cents per bushel for CORN will be paid in Goods, if delivered immediately.

THO'S. LIPPINCOTT.

Milton, Jan. 26—366

## To Emigrants & Settlers.

The Subscriber has for Sale,

500 QUARTER SECTIONS in the Military Bounty Tract, which he offers on the most accommodating terms. To those who wish to purchase for cash, they will be sold very low; and to the industrious poor man, he will give the most liberal credit. Payment will be taken in merchandise, or any kind of stock.

Nothing need be said concerning the situation or advantages of this tract. All will readily admit that it is equal, if not superior, to any in the country.

For further particulars, apply to the subscriber, at his office in St. Louis, Missouri territory.

AB'M. BECK.

St. Louis, Feb. 1, 1820—36tf

## LAND AGENCY.

DANIEL D. SMITH keeps a General Land Agency Office, for the exchange and concentrating lands to suit the proprietors. Letters, (post paid) enclosing deeds, with the cash, will be recorded and returned at three dollars each. A return will be made to the Auditor and the tax paid for \$1 each, where the number of deeds are less than fifty: provided the cash for tax and agency fees are enclosed. United States' Lands will be selected and entered, on a moderate commission.

A Register is kept of improved Farms, Town Lots and non-resident Lands that are for sale. Information to soldiers and settlers will be freely given.

A MAP of the state of Illinois will soon be published.

Dec. 25—31tf

## CHESTER ASHLEY,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

INFORMS the public that he keeps his office in Edwardsville, and will practice in the counties of St. Clair, Washington, and Bond; and in the counties of St. Louis and St. Charles, in the Missouri territory.

He will also attend to LAND AGENCIES of every description. All business entrusted to him shall be faithfully and promptly attended to.

Edwardsville, June 5—2tf

## Notice.

AN annual meeting of "Friends of Humanity," will be held in St. Clair county, near Downing's Station, on the first Friday in May next, and the two succeeding days.

ROBERT LEMON, Clerk.

Feb. 15—g

## NOTICE.

THE subscriber informs the public, particularly his fellow citizens north of the Missouri, that no delay shall be occasioned on his part to commence the publication of the "Missourian," a weekly paper, in the town of St. Charles. Mr. Briggs, one of the proposed proprietors of the intended establishment, having accepted a partnership in the Arkansas Gazette, the establishment will be conducted under the sole management of

ROBERT MCLOUD.

The type, press, and paper, are now on the way from New-York and Pittsburgh, and will be located in St. Charles when received.

## FOR SALE,

THE north half of section 21, town 5 N. range 8 west; south-east quarter of section 5, town 5 N. range 8 west; north-west quarter of section 18, town 5 N. range 7 west; north half and south-west quarter of section 7, town 5 N. range 7 west of the third principal meridian.

The above lands are situated on Cabokia creek, a few miles from Edwardsville.

Apply to  
BEN. STEPHENSON,  
Edwardsville, or to  
JOHN EDGAR,  
Kaskaskia.

Dec. 18, 1819—8430

\* Intended candidates for the next session of the legislature.